

AMENDMENTS**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 7-9 and enter new claims 11-14 as follows:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a random mixture of oligonucleotides which is resistant to preventing self-annealing among random mixtures of oligonucleotides comprising the steps of forming a solution of selecting a random mixture of oligonucleotides which are 6-mers to 8-mers and drying said mixture solution.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the mixture solution is dried by freeze-drying.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the mixture solution also contains at least one of: a polymerase enzyme; a supply of nucleotides for chain extension; a labeled nucleotide; a dye; a stabilizer; and a buffer.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the random mixture of oligonucleotides is of 6-mer oligonucleotides.

11. (New) In a method of forming a random mixture of oligonucleotides the improvement comprising the steps of selecting a random mixture of oligonucleotides which are 6-mers to 8-mers and drying said mixture.

12. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the mixture is dried by freeze-drying.

13. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the mixture also contains at least one of: a polymerase enzyme; a supply of nucleotides for chain extension; a labeled nucleotide; a dye; a stabilizer; and a buffer.

14. (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the random mixture of oligonucleotides is of 6-mer oligonucleotides.